



**ATHERTON URBAN DISTRICT**

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

and

**Senior**

**Public Health Inspector**

for

**1962**



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# Atherton Urban District Council

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## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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### Chairman:

Councillor P. JONES

### Vice-Chairman:

Councillor M. H. GALLAGHER

### Councillors:

J. BOYDELL	H. GREENHALGH	R. SHAW
L. COOP	R. D. HODGKISS	J. STIRZAKER
E. DONOGHUE	A. HOLLIDAY	J. SUMNER
F. FILDES	K. C. HULME	C. URMSTON
W. GOULDEN	S. LOVELESS	J. WESTWELL
		W. WILLIAMS

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## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

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### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

**E. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

### SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

**THOMAS McGUIRE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., I.S.A.A.(Dip.),**  
**Cert. R.S.H. for Meat Inspection**

### ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

**ALFRED HEALY, M.A.P.H.I.,**  
to 31st March, 1962

**ALAN JACKSON, M.A.P.H.I.,**  
from 27th August, 1962

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANT—CLEAN AIR:**  
**E. PERKINS**

**CLERICAL ASSISTANT:**  
**Miss S. HASLAM**

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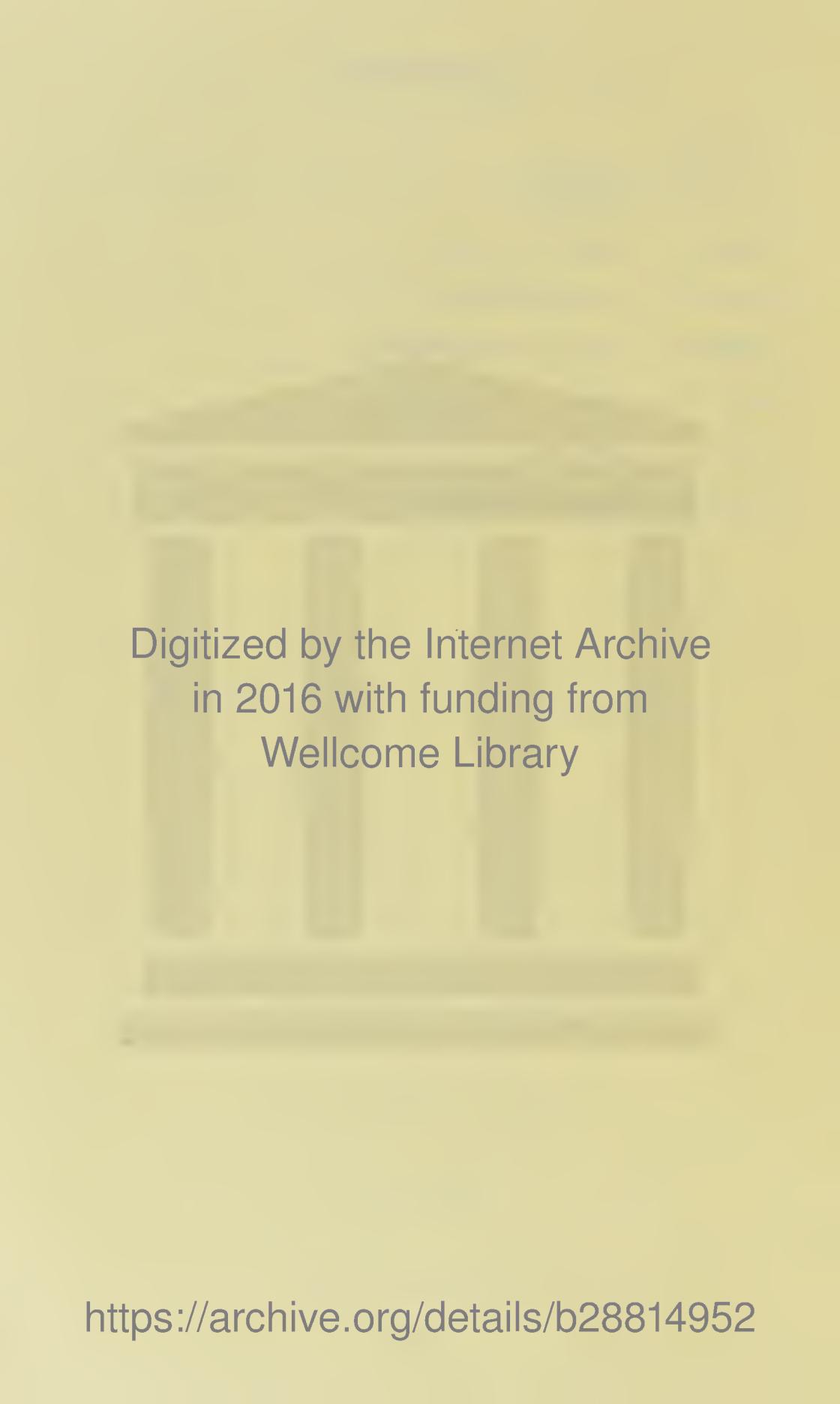
**Section C — Infectious Diseases**

**Section D — Sanitary Circumstances**

**Section E — Food**

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A very faint, light-colored watermark of a classical building with four columns and a triangular pediment is visible in the background.

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Public Health Department.

Town Hall,

Atherton.

## To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your information and consideration the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Atherton for the year ended 31st December, 1962.

The population of the district remained fairly constant at 19,830, which was an increase of 30 over the 1961 figure.

The number of live births was 358 (176 males and 182 females) equivalent to a live birth rate of 18.1 per 1,000 population.

The number of still births was seven and infant deaths numbered eight, giving a perinatal mortality rate of 30.1.

It is satisfying to report no maternal deaths.

There were 154 male and 162 female deaths, making a total of 316 for the year. This total was an increase of 36 over the 1961 figure. This increase was due primarily to diseases of the vascular system, mainly by strokes and by a higher number of deaths ascribed to influenza.

Progress was maintained in the field of slum clearance and the number of clearance areas prepared for presentation to the Council kept pace with the re-housing facilities.

In the campaign for Clean Air, the No. 1 Smoke Control Order came into operation on the 1st November, 1962, and this is to be followed by other areas, on which surveys are at present being carried out.

As in other years the sanitary circumstances affecting food premises, housing, factories and slaughter houses, have been kept under review and details are contained in the body of the report.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to my fellow officers in all departments for their co-operation, and to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support throughout the year.

Yours sincerely,  
E. TAYLOR



# SECTION A

## Statistics



## SECTION A

### STATISTICS

#### General Statistics

Area in acres—2,265.

Population—

1961 Census—Preliminary—19,755.

Mid 1962 Estimate—19,830.

Number of inhabited houses—6,762.

Rateable Value—£207,518 at 31st December, 1962.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate—£715 at 31st December, 1962.

#### Vital Statistics

<b>Live Births:</b>			Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	172	172	344
Illegitimate	...	...	4	10	14
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total			176	182	358
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)					18.1
<b>Still Births:</b>			Males	Females	Total
			4	3	7
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)					19.2
<b>Deaths—All Causes:</b>			Males	Females	Total
			154	162	316
Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)					15.9
Adjusted Death Rate (per 1,000 population)					15.3
<b>Maternal Deaths</b>					Nil
Maternal Death Rate (per 1,000 total births)					Nil
<b>Infant Deaths</b>					8
Infantile Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)					22.3
Neo-Natal Deaths					5
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)					14
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)					30.1

TABLE I  
VITAL STATISTICS

	Live Births		Stillbirths		Deaths (all causes)		Maternal Mortality		Infant Total		Mortality Neo-Natal	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1962.....	358	18.1	7	19.2	316	15.9	nil	nil	8	22.3	5	14
Year 1961.....	321	16.2	14	41.8	280	14.6	nil	nil	9	28	7	21.8
Year 1960.....	327	16.5	9	26.8	251	12.7	nil	nil	7	21.4	5	15.3
Year 1959.....	308	15.6	8	25.3	305	15.1	1	3.16	2	6.5	1	3.2
Year 1958.....	326	16.5	5	15	281	14.3	1	3.02	6	18	3	9
Year 1957.....	289	14.6	7	24	314	17.4	nil	nil	12	42	7	24
Avge. 5 years—												
1957-61.....	314	15.88	86	26.58	286.2	14.82	.4	1.236	72	23.18	46	14.66

\*Adjusted  
live birth rate (comparability factor, 1.00) = 16.5 per 1,000.  
death rate (comparability factor, 0.96) = 11.87 per 1,000.

10  
Avge. 5 years—  
1957-61.....

**TABLE II**  
**CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1961**  
 Registrar General's Return

CAUSE OF DEATH	Males	Females
Tuberculosis, respiratory .....	...	...
Tuberculosis, other .....	...	...
Syphilitic Disease .....	...	...
Diphtheria .....	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	...
Meningococcal Infections .....	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	...
Measles .....	...	...
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....	1	...
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .....	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	...	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .....	...	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms .....	13	10
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .....	...	3
Diabetes .....	1	...
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	23	31
Coronary Disease, Angina .....	26	16
Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	1	...
Other Heart Disease .....	21	24
Other Circulatory Disease .....	9	10
Influenza .....	5	15
Pneumonia .....	6	6
Bronchitis .....	9	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	4	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	1	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	...	...
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	2	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	...	...
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	...	...
Congenital Malformations .....	...	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .....	18	21
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	1	...
All other Accidents .....	3	2
Suicide .....	2	...
Homicide and operations of war .....	...	...
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>162</b>

**TABLE III**  
**VITAL STATISTICS**

Birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases, for England and Wales, in the year 1962.

(Provisional figures based on Registrar General's Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

Estimated home population mid-1962 — 46,669,000.

	No.	Rate per 1,000 home population
<b>Births</b>		
Live Births .....	840,557	18.0
Still-births .....	15,487	0.33
		18.1 (a)
<b>Deaths</b>		
All causes .....	557,446	11.9
Tuberculosis (all forms) .....	3,089	0.066
Respiratory .....	2,776	0.059
Non-respiratory .....	313	0.007
Cancer (all forms) .....	101,599	2.18
Lung and bronchus .....	23,779	0.51
Other cancer .....	77,820	1.67
Maternal mortality (total) .....	300	0.35 (a)
Maternal causes (excluding abortion) .....	243	0.28 (a)
Due to abortion .....	57	0.07 (a)
Infant mortality .....	17,978	21.4 (b)
Neo-natal mortality .....	12,656	15.1 (b)
<b>Notifications (corrected)</b>		
Typhoid fever .....	127	0.003
Paratyphoid fever .....	118	0.003
Meningococcal infection .....	575	0.012
Scarlet fever .....	15,303	0.328
Whooping cough .....	8,347	0.179
Diphtheria .....	16	0.000
Erysipelas .....	1,789	0.038
Smallpox .....	63	0.001
Measles .....	184,757	3.959
Acute pneumonia .....	12,529	0.268
Acute poliomyelitis—		
Paralytic .....	212	0.005
Non-paralytic .....	59	0.001
Acute encephalitis—		
Infective .....	113	0.002
Post-infectious .....	119	0.003
Dysentery .....	30,906	0.662
Food poisoning .....	5,150	0.110
Puerperal pyrexia .....	7,133	0.153
Tuberculosis—		
Respiratory .....	17,974	0.385
Meninges and C.N.S. .....	164	0.004
Other .....	2,522	0.054
Anthrax .....	7	0.000

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

(b) Per 1,000 live births.

## **SECTION B**

### **General Provision of Health Services for the Area**



## SECTION B

### HEALTH SERVICES

#### Ambulance

Atherton and Leigh Ambulance Stations. Tel. Leigh 73111.

#### Care of Children—Children Act, 1948

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council. Area Childrens Officer: Miss J. L. Edwards, B.A., 89 Railway Road, Leigh. Tel. Leigh 72206.

##### 1. ANTE-NATAL

Alder House Clinic.  
Each Tuesday, 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

##### 2. DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH, TETANUS AND POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

(i) Alder House Clinic.  
By arrangement, alternate Monday afternoons of the month.

(ii) General Practitioner Service.

##### 3. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Alder House Clinic.  
Each Monday and Wednesday, 1-30 to 3-30 p.m.

##### 4. OPHTHALMIC

Alder House Clinic, by appointment.  
Each Tuesday morning.

##### 5. ORTHOPAEDIC

Elliot Street Clinic, Tyldesley, by appointment.  
Second Thursday mornings of each month.

##### 6. POST-NATAL

Alder House Clinic.  
Each Friday, 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.

##### 7. SCHOOL HEALTH AND MINOR AILMENT

Alder House Clinic.  
Each Monday and Thursday mornings.

## 8. SPEECH THERAPY

Stonehouse Clinic, Leigh, by appointment.

## 9. TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY AND CHEST CLINIC

Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

## 10. VENEREAL DISEASES

### (i) Civic Centre, Bolton.

Males: Monday to Friday, 9-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 4-30 to 7 p.m.

Females: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 9-30 to 11-30 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 4-30 to 7 p.m.

### (ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males: Friday, 2 to 6-30 p.m.

Females: Wednesday, 2 to 6 p.m.

### (iii) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

Males and Females: Monday, 9-30 to 10-30 a.m.

## **Convalescence**

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C. through the Divisional Medical Officer.

## **Convalescent Treatment**

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

## **Health Visiting Service**

Full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area by the Lancashire C.C.

## **Home Help Service**

Provided by the Lancashire C.C. Apply to Divisional Medical Officer, Leigh Road, Leigh.

## **Home Nursing Service**

District Nurses employed by the Lancashire C.C. are available in the district.

## **Hospitals**

### **1. GENERAL**

Leigh Infirmary, Atherleigh Hospital, Astley Hospital.

### **2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE**

Hulton Lane Fever Hospital, Bolton; Whalley Hospital, Wigan.

### **3. MATERNITY**

Billinge Hospital, Billinge.

## **Laboratory Facilities**

Regional Hospital Board Laboratories at Bolton, Leigh and Wigan Infirmaries and the Monsall Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

## **Maternity Homes**

Firs Maternity Home, Leigh.

## **Midwifery Service**

Domiciliary midwives employed whole-time in the area by Lancashire C.C.

## **Nursing Homes**

None in the district.

## **Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children**

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire C.C., in conjunction with voluntary organisations.

## **Welfare Services**

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire C.C.  
Residential accommodation under Divisional arrangements.

## **X-ray Facilities**

At Leigh and Wigan Infirmaries. Facilities for special chest cases at the Chest Clinic, Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.



## SECTION C

Prevalence of and Control over  
Infectious and other Diseases



## SECTION C

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

#### **Diphtheria**

No case was notified.

#### **Dysentery**

There were 23 cases of Dysentery notified throughout the year, all of the Sonnei type.

#### **Erysipelas**

Three cases only notified during the year.

#### **Food Poisoning**

No cases of food poisoning notified for the year.

#### **Malaria**

No notifications received.

#### **Measles**

A marked reduction in the number of cases from 396 in the previous year to 33 cases in the current year.

#### **Meningococcal Infection**

No notifications for the year.

#### **Paratyphoid Fever**

No notifications received.

#### **Pneumonia**

Six cases were notified for the year, against 17 of the previous year.

#### **Poliomyelitis**

No cases notified during the year.

#### **Puerperal Pyrexia**

No notifications for the year.

## **Scarlet Fever**

There were 21 cases of this disease notified for the year.

## **Smallpox**

No notifications were received, but two contacts were kept under surveillance.

## **Tuberculosis**

There were six cases of tuberculosis reported: five pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.

## **Typhoid Fever**

No Typhoid cases reported throughout the year.

## **Whooping Cough**

Only one case was notified.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1962

TABLE IV

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED										Years	65 & over	Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-45	45-65				
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	23	2	2	2	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles, excl. German Measles	33	4	4	4	3	4	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	21	—	—	—	—	3	2	6	10	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Males	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Males	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	93	8	7	9	6	1	29	5	1	7	1	4	5	—

TABLE V

Table relating to Vital Statistics and Notified Infectious Diseases in other years

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate	Adjusted	Diseases				Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis				Pulmonary Tuberculosis				Measles				Deaths			
				Infant Mortality Rate	Diarrhoea	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases
1900	36.7	16.49		161.6	3	14		5		29		13		2									
1905	30.9	13.7		141.8	40	34		6		55	1	17	5										
1910	26.47	14.67		154.1	20	2		13		36		19	3										
1915	25.44	13.11		103.09	31	3		9		100		7	2										
1920	24.1	12.1		109	24	3		3		44	15	49		2									
1925	15.4	10.9		63	29	3		1		25	8	52		1									
1930	15.3	10.6		61	8	3		5		28	8	42		1									
1935	13.3	12.6		14.3	73	10		1		18	6	42		1									
1938	13.6	10.2		11.6	42	7		5		15	4	42		1									
1940	15.5	12.0		35	9	3		5		9	2	37		1									
1943	18.2	12.8		74	12	2		2		1	7	88		1									
1944	16.29	11.86		60	8	1		1		382		7		1									
1945	17.9	11.3		23	2	...		...		66		2		1									
1946	17.6	10.9		33	5	1		1		511		12	2	22									
1947	19.7	13.3		50	1	...		1		77		11	5	79									
1948	15.2	10.0		28	1	...		...		364	1	3	1	104									
1952	15.8	12.4		13.1	15	...		...		494	1	3	2	24	4	50							
1953	15.1	21.6		22.9	44	...		...		104	2	2	2	2	2	2							
1954	13.7	11.8		12.6	22	...		...		20	5	...	...	6	2	27							
1955	12.6	13.0		14.0	12	...		...		316	...	...	...	15	2	22							
1956	15.2	12.8		14.3	23	...		...		278	1	6	3	9									
1957	14.6	15.8		17.4	42	...		...		164	2	2	2	10	1	46							
1958	16.5	14.3		14.3	18.4	...		...		23	1	1	1	14	2	19							
1959	15.6	15.4		15.1	6.5	...		...		308	1	1	1	12	2	31							
1960	16.5	12.7		12.7	21.4	...		...		105	...	...	...	8	1	29							
1961	16.2	14.1		14.6	28	...		...		396	...	...	...	4	1	1							
1962	18.1	15.9		15.3	22.3	...		...		33	1	1	1	5	21								





## SECTION D

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area



## SECTION D

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water Supply

The Manchester Corporation Water Undertaking is the Statutory Authority for the supply of water to the town.

The source of supply is Thirlmere. The water has been of good quality, of constant pressure, and distribution has been well maintained. Interruptions from frost action or other breakdowns have not been of a prolonged period. All parts of the township are served by mains water.

Results of water samples taken during the year have been satisfactory.

#### Streams

There are no manufacturing industries discharging their trade effluent wastes directly into the streams or watercourses in the area. There are no dye or chemical manufacturers' wastes. Some streams, however, receive storm water overflow discharge from the sewers and this has to be carefully watched and regulated. Colliery washing water is also pumped into these streams. Considerable attention is needed to relieve these watercourses of scrap material, which is both unsightly and interferes with the natural flow and your Surveyors Department carry out this work.

#### Drainage and Sewerage

The drainage and sewerage is of the combined drainage system and disposal is affected at the sewage works under the control of the Leigh and Atherton Joint Sewage Board.

New sewers have been laid to accommodate further new house building estates and are linked to the main trunk sewers of the town.

There are a few outlying areas in the district containing a limited number of residential properties, that are not connected to the main sewers system, but they have septic tank method of disposal and present no real problem.

Mining subsidence can be a difficult engineering problem and calls for the utmost attention in maintaining a proper flow of effluents.

#### Sanitary Accommodation

At the end of 1962 the approximate numbers and types of closet accommodation were as follows, viz.:—

Number of Privy Middens .....	Nil
Number of Pail Closets .....	2

Number of Trough Closets .....	Nil
Number of Waste Water Closets .....	498
Number of Freshwater Closets .....	7,590
Number of Dry Ashpits .....	Nil
Number of Moveable Ashbins .....	6,843
Number of Houses on Water Carriage System .....	6,762

#### Conversions during 1962:—

Number of Privy Closets to Pail Closets	Nil
Number of Waste Water Closets to Fresh Water Closets .....	17

There are still a considerable number of waste water closets in the area, and in an endeavour to eliminate them, the Council make a grant of £9 towards the cost of each conversion. Further inroads are being made by way of the improvement grants and a considerable number are also eliminated where they form part of the slum clearance orders.

### Disinfestation

The number of houses requiring disinfection remains very small and there were in fact only four privately owned dwellings and two Council owned dwellings requiring treatment during the year.

The use of D.D.T./Malathion insecticides proved very effective and the treatment was supervised by the Health Department staff.

There have been minor incidents of cockroach infestation in bakehouses and food premises. These are dealt with by the staff of the department and a charge made for such service.

### Scavenging

The collection and disposal of house refuse continued with only minor interruptions throughout the year.

The Health Department vehicles for this work consist of four side loading vehicles for collection, each with a team of four loaders and a driver; and a Drott Skid Shovel at the disposal end on the Council tip.

The present disposal area is nearing saturation point and the availability of land for tipping purposes is causing some concern. Negotiations are in progress to secure land during 1963.

Salvage of waste paper continued to be worth while, in that this bulk of highly combustible material was excluded from the tip and the income from the sale was offset against the cost of refuse collection.

### Factories and Workplaces

Inspection of premises were carried out throughout the year, and particulars are contained in Table VI of this report.

**TABLE VI**  
**FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959**

	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	9	19	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	75	93	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises) .....	3	4	—	—
Total ...	87	116	5	—
	—	—	—	—

### Defects Found in Factories and Workshops

#### Nuisances under the Public Health and Factory Acts—

	Found	Abated	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness .....	5	5	—
Inadequate Ventilation .....	2	2	—
Unreasonable Temperature .....	2	2	—
Drainage of Floors .....	—	—	—
Overcrowding .....	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation—			
Insufficient .....	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective ...	8	8	—
Other Offences against the Act	—	—	—
Total ...	17	17	—

## **Rats and Mice Destruction**

Rodent control measures have again been carried out efficiently and the rodent operator employed by the Council is fully trained. I am pleased to report that whilst infestation is endemic, there have been no major outbreaks or build up of colonies.

The services are available free of charge to all householders and monthly contracts for which a charge is made, are carried out for industry and business.

Forming part of the system of control, the sewers of the Town are treated half yearly and statistical returns of such treatment were submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

A statistical report of the work carried out for the year is given in Appendix VII.

## **Swimming Baths**

The Council owned public swimming baths have undergone considerable internal improvements.

Further improvements of boiler house and plant to be carried out in the coming year will result in a more efficient unit for fuel burning and an up to date water treatment plant. The water supply is from the town mains and is of the continuous flow principle. Tests of water samples throughout the open season have not given any cause for alarm.

The popularity of the baths remains and its services to the schools curriculum is maintained.

## **Schools**

The conditions prevailing at schools in the district remain fairly satisfactory.

All school toilet facilities are of the fresh water type and drinking water and washing facilities are available. Some new fountain type drinking water troughs have been installed and modernisation of buildings or parts of buildings has taken place.

There was no case of gross overcrowding or inadequate lighting and school meals services continued to function quite satisfactorily.

## **Offensive Trades**

There are no premises of this nature in the town.

## **Houses Let in Lodgings**

There are no common lodging houses in the district and with the demolition during the year of the one house-let-in lodgings, there are now no such properties left in the district.

## **Rag Flock Acts**

The one shop in the district registered under the Act is now using rubber foam or plastic fibre. These modern products are vermin-free and most sound hygienically.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

TABLE VII

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	(1) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	Non-Agricultural (2) All Other (inc. Business premises)	(3) Total of cols. (1) & (2)	(4) Agricultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District .....	6756	1345	8101	14
II. Number of properties inspected .....	65	152	217	2
III. Total inspections carried out — including re-inspections .....	97	162	259	—
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by:				
(a) Rats	16	135	151	2
{ Major .....	—	—	—	—
{ Minor .....	—	—	—	—
(b) Mice	21	9	30	2
{ Major .....	—	—	—	—
{ Minor .....	—	—	—	—
V. Number of infested properties treated .....	37	144	—	—
VI. Total treatments carried out — including re-treatments .....	42	146	188	2
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:				
(a) Treatment .....	—	—	Nil	Nil
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) .....	—	—	Nil	Nil
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act .....	—	—	Nil	Nil
IX. Legal Proceedings .....	—	—	Nil	Nil
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out .....	—	—	Nil	Nil



# SECTION E

## Inspection and Supervision of Food



## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Places under Inspection

The number of food premises, by type of business, at end of 1962 were as follows:—

Grocers .....	91
Bakers .....	20
Confectioners (sweets, minerals, ice cream), etc. .....	39
Fried Fish Shops .....	18
Meat Shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked meat, tripe, etc.) .....	22
Greengrocers .....	9
Fishmongers .....	6
Canteens, Snack Bars and Licensed Premises	49
Others .....	4

Premises registered under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1951, include:—

	No. of Premises	No. of Inspections during 1962
Hawkers—Fish, Fruit and Vegetables	5	12
„ Meat and Meat Products ...	3	6
Bakehouses .....	17	33
Fried Fish Shops .....	18	28
Cooked Meat Preparing Premises .....	4	14
Sausages, etc., Preparing Premises ...	16	23
Ice Cream Shops .....	59	65

#### Food Premises

Regular and routine inspections of food shops and food storage depots have been carried out throughout the year.

The distribution of food in sealed cartons and tins from wholesale depots in the area does not present the problem of those of the catering and allied trades. Particular attention is given to these premises dealing with unwrapped food and the provision and use of soap, nail brush and towel, with a constant and adequate supply of hot water is an essential in such establishments.

Improved technique in the handling of unwrapped foodstuffs is constantly taking place and it is felt that the visits and notices to these establishments has resulted in securing some of these improvements.

Considerable work has been carried out by the department in food depots and stores, in the campaign of protecting food from contamination by rodents and insects.

Sampling of foodstuffs is carried out by the inspectors of the Lancashire County Council staff and their report is embodied under a separate heading in this report.

### Slaughterhouses

There are two wholesale slaughterhouses in the district, with a daily killing carried out. Post mortem examination of carcase meat is a daily routine.

The following details of animals killed and inspected are presented.

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
No. Slaughtered .....	3481	5282	3	11053	1457
No. Inspected .....	3481	5282	3	11053	1457

### All Diseases other than T.B.

Whole Carcasses condemned	1	13	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	461	1163	—	605	158
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .....	13.2	22	—	5.5	10.8

### Tuberculosis only

Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned .....	4	1	—	—	—
Percentage of No. Inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

### Cysticercosis

Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

### Milk Supply

Responsibility for the production of milk rests with the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Supplies for retail distribution in the area have been constant and adequate throughout the year, and the supply of milk to schools under the direction of the County Council, have again been quite satisfactory.

Milk samples for chemical analysis are submitted by the Sampling Officers of the County Council and those for bacteriological purposes are obtained and submitted by the Health Department staff.

The result of these tests are given in their respective sequences.

(a) Raw Milk:

(i) Tuberculosis—biological tests—

No. of samples 7. No. positive nil. No. negative 7. No result nil.

(ii) Methylene Blue Test—

No. of samples 5. No. satisfactory 5. No. unsatisfactory nil.

(b) "Heat treated" Milk:

(i) Phosphatase Test—

No. of samples 5. No. satisfactory 5. No. unsatisfactory nil.

(ii) Turbidity Test—

No. of samples 5. No. satisfactory 5. No. unsatisfactory nil.

(iii) Methylene Blue Test—

No. of samples 5. No. satisfactory 5. No. unsatisfactory nil.

### **Food Inspection and Unsound Food**

The inspection and condemnation of foodstuffs is carried out during routine visits to food depots and establishments, or by specific request for that purpose from the trade.

The quantity and types of the foods condemned were never such as to give cause for concern regarding the nature of foods being marketed for human consumption.

A list of such foodstuffs condemned is submitted herewith.

19 tins Casserole Steak .....	19 lbs.
4 tins Corned Beef .....	21 lbs.
Cheese—Danish Blue .....	6 lbs.
20 tins Fruit Salad .....	31 lbs.
4 tins Gammon Ham .....	42 lbs.
13 tins Grapefruit .....	18 lbs.
2 tins Ham, cooked .....	15 lbs.
1 tin Jellied Veal .....	6 lbs.

15 tins Luncheon Meat .....	8 lbs.
1 tin Ox Tongue .....	6 lbs.
2 tins Pears .....	4 lbs.
6 tins Peas .....	6 lbs.
10 tins Peaches .....	16 lbs.
5 tins Pork, chopped .....	2½ lbs.
41 tins Prunes .....	24 lbs.
24 tins Pressed Ham .....	96 lbs..
1 tin Rhubarb .....	1 lb.
14 tins Rice Pudding .....	14 lbs.
21 tins Stewed Steak .....	19 lbs.
5 tins Steak & Kidney .....	5 lbs.
142 tins Tomatoes .....	117 lbs.
8 tins Vegetable .....	8 lbs.

## FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1955

A total of 101 samples was obtained, consisting of 63 samples of milk (four of which were samples of Channel Islands milk) and 38 others comprising:—

1 Tincture of iodine B.P.	2 Compound vitamin tablets
1 Cloves	1 Gravy browning, concentrated
1 Sugar	1 Oatmeal
1 Tea	1 White pepper
1 Ammoniated tincture of quinine B.P.C.	1 Baking powder
1 Cod liver oil B.P.	1 Lemon cheese
1 Buttered slice of bread and part jar of lemon cheese	1 Sponge pudding
1 Table jelly	1 Sage and onion stuffing
1 Zinc and castor oil cream	1 Mixed grill, canned
2 Fresh fruit	1 Teething powders
2 Pearl barley	2 Ice lollies
2 Mineral water	1 Cheese
1 Saccharin tablets	1 Boracic ointment
1 Sauce	1 Potato puffs
1 Laxative tablets	2 Sweets
	1 Salad cream
	1 Buttered cheese spread

I give below details of samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:—

<b>Type of Sample</b>	<b>Result of Analysis</b>	<b>Action Taken</b>
1 Formal milk	Fat 2.75%, deficient 8.3% fat. Also slightly low in solids-not-fat.	Vendor notified
1 Buttered slice of bread covered with lemon cheese, and separately a part jar of lemon cheese	Contained fragment of opaque glass weighing 1 mgm. and submitted separately a fragment of broken glass weighing 80 mgms.	Complainant informed



## SECTION F

### Housing



## SECTION F

### HOUSING

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats
(i) By the Local Authority .....	20	—
(ii) By other Local Authorities .....	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons .....	24	—

**1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	362
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose .....	522
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) Number found during year .....	58
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year	141
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit .....	317

**2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1957, and Housing Repair and Rents Act, 1954):—**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses demolished during year:	
(a) Unfit houses .....	36
(b) Other Houses .....	—
(2) Number of persons displaced .....	93

**3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:—**

	No. of houses	No. of persons displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during year:—		
Housing Act, 1957:—		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure .....	3	7
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 16 and still in force .....	2	7

(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 17) .....	—	—
(2) Repairs during the year:—		*No. of houses
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts .....	272	
(b) Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice—Houses in which defects were remedied:—		
(i) By owners .....	5	
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—	
(c) Housing Act, 1957—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9, 10, 11):— Houses made fit:—		
(i) By owners .....	5	
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—	
(d) Housing Repair and Rents Act, 1954: Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5) ...		—

#### 4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):—

(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7 .....	Nil
(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) above	Nil
(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6) .....	Nil

\*A defective house remedied more than once during the year is included once only.

#### Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants, etc.

Action during the year:—

	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority .....	71	71
(b) Approved by Local Authority .....	60	60
(c) Submitted by L.A. to Ministry .....	—	—

(d) Approved by the Ministry .....	—	—
(e) Works completed .....	70	70
(includes approvals in 1961 and work completed in 1962).		

### House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959—

#### Standard Grants—

	No. of Dwellings Affected
(a) Applications submitted to L.A. .....	53
(b) Applications approved by L.A. .....	31
(c) Work completed .....	40

22 of the applications not yet approved are completing their documents for the work to proceed.

#### General Inspections

Houses (including re-visits) .....	1480
Schools .....	26
Factories and Workplaces .....	112
Bakehouses .....	217
Food preparing premises .....	236
Dairies, Miscellaneous, etc. .....	547
Shops .....	234
Slaughter-houses .....	770
	<hr/>
	3622
	<hr/>

In connection with these inspections, the following nuisances and defects were found and remedied, viz.:—

	Found	Remedied
House roofs in need of repair .....	89	77
Defective W.C.s .....	59	55
Choked or defective drains .....	38	37
Defective plaster or walls, etc. .....	108	97
Insanitary conditions of yards .....	2	2
House walls damp .....	104	93
Defective eaves gutters .....	31	28
Defective windows, etc., .....	34	31
Animals kept as to be a nuisance .....	1	1
Miscellaneous (floors, stairs, etc.) .....	76	71
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	542	492
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Arising from these nuisances and defects, the following notices were served, viz.:—

Informal .....	179
Statutory .....	30

## Rent Act, 1957

There have been no applications made for certificates of dis-repair under the above Act. Action for the repair to property has resolved to the Public Health and Housing Acts procedure.

## GENERAL. Conditions and observations

The Urban District of Atherton has a population of some 20,000, an acreage of 2,200, and is industrial in character.

Cotton, coal mining, light engineering, nut and bolt manufacturing and a large privately owned transport company, form its main industries.

The number of inhabited houses is 6,750 and the density of persons per acre is 8.7.

There is a considerable number of terraced properties and these vary from the older more outdated cottage property to the better type Accrington brick built terraced rows.

The Council Housing Estate exceeds 2,000 houses and the present contract of 76 houses is about 20 per cent complete. Some bungalows and houses on privately developed estates are a further welcome additional feature. The clearance of an area of 37 houses in South Ward will give the Council the opportunity of re-building on the site.

There are no back-to-back or single back properties and no common lodging houses.

The number of applicants for Council houses remains fairly constant and the number of applicants for mortgages was quite considerable.

There has been a continuance of the demand for Improvement Grants and the amenities thus provided enables further useful life to be obtained from these properties.

The No. 1 Smoke Control Area, affecting some 210 houses in the West Ward, came into operation on the 1st November, 1962, and survey for the introduction of No. 2 Zone has followed on. This zone covers approximately 800 houses and the experience gained in the pilot scheme is proving most useful in the present survey.

All Health Services for the district functioned quite satisfactorily during the year and road works, street lighting and other engineering works affecting the district, were all carried out under the direction of your Surveyor.

# SECTION G

## Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement



## SECTION G

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

#### Atmospheric Pollution

Recordings of atmospheric pollution are made by the use of two volumetric meter recorders, one sited at the Town Hall, and one at the Parks & Gardens motor garage, in the West Ward area of the town.

Recordings are taken daily and the statistical information obtained is tabulated and submitted monthly to the D.S.I.R. Laboratory at Warren Springs.

The varying densities of solids pollution may be seen from the Wattman Filter Papers, and these are displayed outside the Town Hall for the information of the public.

Improvements of boiler house plants in the factories has been encouraging and together with the resultant benefit of Smoke Control Areas as they come into operation, the degree of pollution should be gradually reduced over the years.





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